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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 5,988,171	:	
Issue Date: November 23, 1999	:	
Application No. 08/883,220	:	REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
Filed: June 26, 1997	:	
Attorney Docket No. 2117.034	:	

This request for information is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed September 28, 2012, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

Please submit the requested information within **two (2) months** of the mail date of this communication.

37 CFR 1.33(b)(1) and (2) were recently amended to provide that amendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(iii) or (c)(2)(iv), filed in the application must be signed by: (1) A patent practitioner of record; (2) a patent practitioner not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34; or (3) the applicant (§ 1.42). Section 1.33(b)(3) also provides that unless otherwise specified (e.g., terminal disclaimers and § 3.73(c) statements), all papers submitted on behalf of a juristic entity must be signed by a patent practitioner, as § 1.31 provides that a juristic entity may prosecute a patent application only through a patent practitioner. *Changes to Implement the Inventor's Oath or Declaration Provisions of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act*, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48783 (August 14, 2012).

The changes took effect on September 16, 2012.

The present petition, filed September 28, 2012, was signed by John F. Thompson for Medtronic Xomed, Inc.. John F. Thompson has not provided a registration number.

As such, the petition was not signed by a proper party. Please submit another petition signed by a proper party.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:


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Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3230.


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